Development of Seabed mining vehicle

7065. SHRI RAHAS BIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whther it is a fact that a Seabed mining vehicle has been developed by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute at Durgapur;

(b) if so what would be main function of this Seabed mining vehicle;

(c) the expected time of puting it in operation; and

(d) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO). (a) A vehicle prototype was developed and tested at a depth and of 4 meters in a shallow bed testing facility with the objective of gaining technology experience in stages in underwater mining.

(c) and (d) Studies carried out by countries like Australia and France have indicated that seabed mining is not yet viable. There is no immediate possibility of the indigenous technology being in a position to carry out mining at depths of 6000 meters.

Ad-hoc Appointee Assistants

7066. SHRI KAMESHWAR PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 502 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1993 and state:

(a) the details of vacancies against which 2076 ad-hoc appointee Assistants cadre-wise were continuing for 4-6 years as on 31st March, 1992;

(b) whether during the SL Years 1986 to 1989, recruitment action for filling up vacancies through DR/SQ were concluded; and

(c) if so, whether Goverment propose to count their longer ad-hoc officiation towards eligibility for all purposes including promotion to the next higher grade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) Assistants Grade of Central Secretariat Services is de-centralised amongst 32 cadres. Promotions, including adhoc promotions, against the posts of Assistants are made by the cadres themselves. Therefore, though recruitment action for Select Lists from 1986—1989 through Direct Recruitment, seniority quota was taken, details of vacancies against which ad-hoc appointees were continuing or against which regular appointments were made, is not centrally maintained. The relevant rules do not provide for counting of ad-hoc service towards eligibility for promotion to next higher grade. The matter is also subjudice.

Recruitments through DR and SQ from Select List

7067. SHRI KAMESHWAR PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questions 3233 and 3255 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd December, 1993 and state:

(a) whether recruitmen's through DR and SQ were made from the Select List 1985 to 1989;

(b) the posts against which 2076 ad-hoc appointee Assistants were being continued for 4 to 6 years up to 31st March, 1992, out of 4847 sanctioned posts of Assistants;

(c) whether these persons were appointed on ad-hoc basis as Assistant. according to Rule/executive instructions issued by Department of Personnel and Training; and

(d) if so the reasons for not giving seniority for the ad-hoc service, followed by regularisation?